The steamship Texas, Capt. Place, reached her wharf shortly after 2 P. M. yesteriny. She left Vera Cruz on the att inst., to which date she brings intelligence from that port. From the city of Mexico we have papers to the 4th inst.

Capt. Place reports that up to the time of the departure.

Capt. Place reports that up to the time of the departure.

of the Texas from Vera Cruz, the British brig Two Ludies,
then forty-five days out from New-York, had not arrived.

A severe shock of earthquake was felt in Vera Cruz at
about 12 minutes past 9 o'clock on the morning of the 5th
mat, which according to the Eco del Comerce, lastel at
least fifty seconds. Fortunately, notwithstanding its severify and its extended duration, it did not cause any
damage.

renity and its extended duration, it did not cause any damage.

The only authentic and definite intelligence that we have received from the City of Mexico, as to the state of affairs in the South, seems fully to confirm the most uniquoronable reports previously brought from Acapulco by way of Panama, as to Santa Anna's prospects. A private communication dated Mexico, May 3, which we have before us, and in the integrity and importality of the writer, of which we are assured the most implicit reliance may be placed, has the following statement:

"At the present moment reports are in circulation here little in favor of the existing order of affairs: but I do not know if they will prove correct. It is runnored that the President is entirely surrounded by the forces of Alvarez. It is said that the appointment of an Executive is discussed, and that the Commandant-General does not obey the order of the Ministers. I think that much of this is more conjecture; but what is certain is, that we have no intelligence whatever from the South.

In direct connection with this, however, we may state that we are politicly informed by Mr. Da Casta, the Paracr of the steamship Texas, that just as the vessel was leaving Vera Cruz news reached there of a battle having been fought between the forces of Santa Anna and those of Alvarez, in which the former were completely victorious. We have been mable to obtain any particulars as to where the alleged encounter was said to have taken place, though the precumption was that it was at or near Acapatico. Independent of the consideration as to the amount of crelibility to be attached to a report so vaguely transmitted, it would seem to bear internal avidence of being fictitions.

To show this, our readers, we think, will only have to consider the report of the previous condition of affairs given by the Mexican papers. We give these in a connected form, but from the period embraced by our last accounts taken from the seriod embraced by our last accounts taken from the seriod embraced by the h

bolledo prisoners. We are teld that one Jose Abarca, chief of another of We are feld that one Jose Aburca, chief of another of Alvarez's guerrilla bands, not having been able to seeduce the inhabitants of Chilapa, set fire to two important hack-cades, the inhabitants of which to the number of two hun-dred on foot and eighty mounted, fell on him and his band and accomplished a murderous defeat of them.

The Cabinet is next represented to have received intel-

obstacles whatever; but that a half look place at Dos Arroyas, in order to refresh the troops, so that they might reach Acapulco by the 20th.

Our renders, however, will we think, see some inconsistency here, with the account given above, of the state of affairs at Dos Arroyas, and in what follows we think they will find presumptive confirmation of the report that Alvarez had surrounded Santa Anna. Forthe Diario Oficial, reterring to this same period, says that some isolated bands of rebeis, the remains of Alvarez samy dispersed at Comillo, beat about the country, and that although they flee at the approach of Santa Anna samy, they intercept correspondence. On the 22d, it says, they intercepted two couriers on foct, who, however, succeeded in saving their despatches by biding them in the wood, and entresting them afterwards to the command of an excert of a convoy, who remitted them to the Governor-General. This officer was said, at the same time, to announce that with the exception of these small bands, the country was quiet.

The same paper, in its issue of the last inst, publishes a dispatch from Gen. Palacios, dated Brazos, April 27, in which he says that he has transmitted it to calm any anxiety that may have arrises in the Capital from the infrequency of communications of late, and to communicate an account of the true state of affairs. Our troops, he says, victorious on all sides, have penetrated to Acapulco, and at last accounts were bombarding the forfress at that place—the last recever of the insurgents. This informa-

victorious on missies, have penetrated to Acapanco, and at last accounts were bombarding the fortress at that place—the last resert of the insurgents. This information, he alleges, he has from persons who have come from that quarter, and he has no doubt the fortress had already been taken. He then pleads the great occupation of Sauta tion, he alleges, he has from persons who have come from that quarter, and he has no doubt the fortress had already been taken. He then pleads the green occupation of Sauta Anna and the Minister of War, in addition to the unsafe

that quarter, and he has no doubt the fortress had already been taken. He then pleads the great occupation of Santa Anna and the Minister of War, in addition to the unsafe condition of the roads, as a reason for not having sent dispatches. He believes hie whole number of insurgents left does not amount to four hundred, and alleges that some have been terrified into flight, and that most of them are inclined to throw themselves on the elemency of the Sapreme Government, as Manuel Aviles has done.

The Heradde, of the 4th inst., quotes from the Universal of the 3d, which has not reached us, a statement that, from communications which the Supreme Government had resceived on the previous day, from the chief commandant at Tabasco, it was known that Alvarez, finding it impossible to go into a formal action with Santa Anna's troops, had been contented to take up a position with some of his followers at Las Cruces, to intercept correspondence, and Santa Anna had sent a respectable force to dislodge him. It was also known, according to the same authority, that the fortress of San Diego could offer but little resistance, in consequence of the small number defanding it, especially disposed as they are by the reverses which they have suffered in their previous encounters. Don Ignacio Commen under him, exclusive of some he is alleged to have disarmed in censequence of doubting their fidelity. We are now brought down to the latest moment to which we have any authentic intelligence, wrhout calling in question the authenticity of the latter portions of it. And still we think it is quite clear from it that we are instilled in saving been surrounded and thrown into a difficult position by Alvarez. Even according to the latest and most favorable accounts there were numerous bands in his rear, cutting off all communication with him, the fertress of San Diego was holding out against him with a force of more than 300, and fed into the Sierra Gordo, whither he was pursued. He also attacked San Cirio, but was repulsed, Numerous forces

The Dravio Official of Toluca, anneances the arrest of Luis Pinzon, a carrier of secret despatches from Alvarez to the leaders of the disaffected in Michoacan, Sebores Anacleto Tabares Ramon Palacios of Coyuca, and Felipe Erazo, Administrator of Custems at Acapuico, who were all three likewise arrested.

The Diarao Official of Mexico, gives a programme of the objects of a democratic conspiracy, the chiefs of which had been arrested. These are most liberal, and yet moderate. Civil liberty, and above all, liberty of conscience, the separation of all civil power from the priesthood, and the establisment of an agrarian law, which regulates landed property and facilitates its acquirement, are their great points.

great points.

First among the items of general intelligence is the amnouncement of the death of Gen. Brave. This illustricus man one of the few remaining heroes of the revolution which combated and finally overthrew the dominion of Spain in Mexico. He died at Chilpaneimo, for as it is elsewhere stated, at Braves, at neon, on the 22d all. What renders the occurrence the more remarkable, is the fact that his wife had died only about three or four heavs before him. It was this truly noble-hearted man, who having learned that his old father had just been liberated by a Spanish General, set at liberty 300 prisoners whem he had sh General, set at liberty 300 prisoners whom he had

Currespondence of The Bee.

MEXICO, Friday, May 5, 1854.

"A suitable reward will be poul to whoreve well furnish news of H. M. S. H. and his army, Apply of the National Palace."

Such is the placard posted up a few days ago at the four Such is the placard posted up a few days ago at the four corners of the principal square. You perceive that I do not hesitate to take my news from the streets and highways. In an oppressed country like this, we may often discover indications of public sentiment from such publications. This placard which was witty enough at the time, would be cruel new, for the pure and simple truth is that Santa Anna's army has been in all probability destroyed. Since the 15th April, not a dispatch from the General, not a letter from the army has been received. Alvaire, after making a feint of resistance, and having falled back from position to position, from define to define—after

having lired Santa Anna beyond the gorges of the mountains and placed Santa Anna has suddenly fallen upon his rear and placed Santa Anna has suddenly fallen upon his rear and placed Santa the impossible passages of the Peregnio and Cognillo. This is the sum and substance of the law has become of the sum and substance of the known. What has become of the anna caught, as it were in a mouse-trap. His conveys have been seized, all his couriers intercepted, without provisions, without heavy artillary, harrassed by the Pintos on every side, docimated by the climate, caten up by the fevers which the early rains have engendered, what has been the fate of his expedition? Sinster reports are in circulation. Some say that Santa Anna, after being twice repulsed from Acapulco, has embarked on board a vessel and disappeared; others declare that he has been killed; and the news to-day is that he is a prisoner in the hands of Alvarez. All these rumors are probable. It is certain that Alvarez has placed the Mexican Crassus in a difficult and dangerous position. It is hardly possible that he will have a chance to capitulate. Santa Anna in the power of Aivarez can hope for no mercy; and every thing leads to the belief that the one-legged here has fallen into the snare laid for him by his artful antagonist.

For three weeks the Cabinet has been without intelli-

tful antagonist.
For three weeks the Cabinet has been without intelli-For three weeks the Cabinet has been without intelli-gence from the army. His Most Serene Highness left pre-cipinately, blindly bent on the expedition, without pro-viding a government od interior or delegating his authority to others. At a Council of State which preceded his de-parture Santa Anna took leave of his Ministers. Three of them had the boldness to hint that he was neither immortal nor invincible, whereupon the hero flew into a violent rage and threatened the indiscreet interioculors with ex-pulsion. What insolence for foolish mortals to question the irresistible might of this son of Japiter Ammon. Santa Anna left in a hurry, and new anarchy is the order of the the irresistible might of this son of Japiter Annon. Santa Anna left in a hurry, and new anarchy is the order of the day. The Ministry base only the power of arrest and bandahanent, but their signature alone is worthless. There is a frightful vacuum in the treasury, and yesterday the pious Lares and the great Bomila endeavored to obtain a lean of \$50,000 from the Archbishop out of the funds of the Church, but the priests who are so lavish of scapularies and Tr Deems entertain a moral detestation of an empty strong-box. The money of mother church is sacred. "Render unto the Lord what belongs to the Lord, and to "Cassar what belongs to Cassar, Such is their motio, and

After three hours fighting, Villareal abandoned his position and fied up adjacent ravines. A report was circuited at night that Alvarez had evenuated the Cerro del Peregrino and fallen back upon Acapalco. Sasta Anna reviewed his troops on the field of battle. This, however, would reem not to have been particularly bloody, for the army is said to have lost but four men—three privates and a sub-licutement of chasseurs named Gozzies. The affair, which commenced at daybroak, was all over by noon.

On the filst of March, Capt. Diaz Miron left Mazutlan with two vessels to blockade the port of Acapales.

Immediately after the Cognillo affair Santa Anna s cavarity is said to have come up with Alvarez's forces at the Cerros de los des Arreyns, intercepting their retreat, and to have charged and dispersed them. One of the prison-ers gave the information that Alvarez's had fed during the night for Acapales. The Universal remarks in reference to this that the capture of the "bandit would be moved to be abled to surround him.

We next hear that a licutement of auxiliary troops, who had been charged with the pursuit of Villalva's band, on some to be enabled to surround him.

We next hear that a licutement of auxiliary troops, who had been charged with the pursuit of Villalva's band, on some to be enabled to surround him.

We next hear that a licutement of auxiliary troops, who had been charged with the pursuit of Villalva's band, on some the vicinity of the hacienda of Tepozanalco, routed them and took ignacio Sanchez, Pax Yezea, and Gabriel Rebolledo prisoners.

We not learned Prioto. The overthow of Santa Anna server to aspire to it.

We have not learned breat for his distinguished citizens to the brave Candes and the take of the brave Candes and the take of the brave of the brave Candes and the take of the brave of the brave of the signal is given. Vega has stirred up Cerro Gordon Mazadlan, Osjaca and Jalisco will follow the moven candes and refreshed only for the purpose of leading on Santa Anna so as to be enabled to su

foreign powers.

An American Consular agent has been arrested, or rather summened to appear before the tribunal of a petty judge of the frontier, for having attered an offensive opinion of the Mexican Government. The embarrassments of the

abinet increase every hour.

The diligence from Mexico to Vera Cruz was stopped. The unigence from Mexico to vera Cruz was stopped vesterday morning seven leagues from the Capital. The Piedmontese Count Cosato, an immensely wealthy man, was killed while defending himself against the robbers. Three passengers were wounded. The miscreats left one of their party dead on the route, and took flight without securing any of the coveted plunders.

## THE COAL MINE EXPLOSION.

The Richmond (Va.) Dispatch, of May 17, gives the following later report from the scene of the dreadful Coal Mine disaster, of which we gave the particulars in our morning

disaster, of which we gave the particulars in our morning edition.

We learn from the pits, that the bodies of all those killed by the explosion on Monday, were gotten out by 4 o'clock yesterday, save that of Thomas Tompkins, one of the overseers, which had not been discovered. The body of Thomas Brown, one of those killed, was brought down by the Danxille cars, yesterday evening, for interment here. Not one of all that were in the pit were found alive save William Eiliott. He was living when the cars passed by the pits yesterday evening; but we learn that there were no hopes of his recovery.

The calamity of course had cast a gloom over the vicinity, and the distress occasioned by the extensive loss of life was very great. The bringing up of the crisped and blackened bodies of the dead and their recognition by their relatives and friends formed a succession of most heart-rending scenes.

rending scenes.

Appeal for Help.—The Dispatch makes the following

want: and unless those who have the means to spare will come to their relief, there is no telling where their sufferings will end. Some of these families, who have been deprived of their protection and support, have as many as five or six helpless children, without the means of subsistence, and in one of them there are five girls. They are all very poor, and must perish unless timely succor is afforded thems. Will not the people of Richmond come to their relief? Is there a father or a mother within reach of these saily afflicted creatures, who will not give something to aid them in their distresses? A few dollars in the hands of those widewed mothers, at this time, will be worth more than thousands to those less needy, and we therefore feel assured that our readers will promptly respond to this fee-ble call upon them for help.

Here is an opportunity for the more thrifty of the miners elsewhere amid the immense coal fields of Pennsylvania. Ohio, &c., to enjoy the luxury of ailing their distressed brethren in Virginia. Donations, we are authorized to say.

brethren in Virginia. Donations, we are authorized to say will be received by the editor of The Dispatch, Richmond Va., and promptly applied to the argent necessities of the

THE SALT STE. MARKE CANAL.—Mr. Harvey of the Saut Canal, Mr. Bigelow, Mr. Whitney and other gentlemen who have passed the winter at Saut Ste. Marie, came down yesterday on the steamer Northerner. They report all clear of ice, and that the steamer Garden City arrived at the Saut on Monday morning.

With regard to the progress of the Saut Canal, in which the people of the lower Peninsula, and all others interested at Lake Superior, feel a deep concern, they report that probably eight-tenths of the earth and rock excavation has been finished. The length of the excavation from the head to the foot of the portage is 4,300 feet; the width of the excavation at the bettem is 64 feet, and at top 100 feet. The sides of the canal are to be lined with stone for the whole distance, to prevent washing, and there are to be two locks, 350 feet in length, with foundation walls 10 feet in the kness, and they are to be strengthened by stone battlements on the outside, 12 feet apart. These locks will contain 15,000 able vards of stone masonry. A large portion of the timber is nearly out. The work during the winter has been done at great disadvantage, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the depth of the snow and the making of ice during the right from water ooking out of the rocks.

AUXENTEED ESCAPE FROM A PENTIENTIARY.—A passed

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE FROM a PENITENTIARY .- A pas ATTEMPTED ESCAPE FROM A PENITENTIARY.—A passenger who came down last night on the packet from Alton reports that five of the convicts attempted, not long betere the departure of the boat, to escape from the State Prison in that city, by scaling the wall. They had already reached the top, and were about to let themselves down on the outside, when three of the guard fired at them. Our informant learned that one of the convicts fell back dead, and two other were seriously wounded, but managed to maintain their footing on the wall. The whole party were recaptured.

MOYLO WEST.—A man, his wife, and about half a dozen children, passed through Cincinnat recently on their way to the wiles of the West. Their effects were being transported in a dry goods box on track-wheels, and "pulled "along" by a woman and girl. They have a tedious trip before them, but "hope maketh the heart whole," and that a some consolution.

telore them, but hope in section of Paris, announces that a chief, a distinguished Physician of Paris, announces that a shock of electricity, given to patients dying from the effects of chloroform, immediately counteracts its influence and returns the sufferer to life.

The Syminote Indians—It is said the agent of the Federal Government, to whom was entrusted the work of removing the Seminoles from Florida, has given up all hopes of accomplishing that work the present season.

Large Ox.—The Elvira, from Glasgow yesterday, had on board an ex which weighs 2,630 pounds. It belongs to Mr. J. Estes of Howard County, passenger on the Elvira.

St. Long Indelignator

A Large Eog. - William R. Gates, of South Lee, has sent us the statistics of a hen's egg, weighing 41 oz., and measuring 8 inches by 41. [Pittsfield Mass.] Gazette. A bill to abelish capital pundshment, debated at great length in the Ohio State Scoale, was finally lost by two NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MPLEOURNE AND THE CHINCHA ISLANDS WITH SECTIONS IN LINE AND A VOTAGE ROUND THE WORLD -By Great W. Proc. 12mo. pp. 24. Charles Serber.

The author of this volume is no stranger in the field of literary labor. In connection with the periodical press, he has attained a name as a sharp, nervous, witty, though somewhat erratic writer. This volume fully sustains his reputation. It shows no common power of observation, a per-nnial vein of humor, and great power of forcible and picturesque expression. Fuil of animated descriptions, -strongly individual-istic in its general views-and never falling into lan-

guer or common-place-it is not only perfectly readable for the moment, but leaves a multitude of agree-

able pictures in the memory.

Mr. Peck took passage in a Boston vessel in February 1853, and arrived at Melbourne after a voyage of about three months. The appearance of that city was not a little striking to the unaccustomed eye of the

stranger.

When it is remembered that every building, but and tent was crowded with tenants, it may be imagined how animated the principal streets of the business part of Melbourne appeared to a "new chain just from a long lonely voyage. Colline-st., as I passed down it the first morning, was as througed as Broadway. I stopped on the Ehzabeth-st, corner, and took an observation. Long teams of as many as twenty toke of bullocks to each, were drawns also be weeners up and down explains one as at the feet.

During Mr. Peck's stay at Melbourne, the population of the city and its suburbs, according to his estimate, averaged not less than a hundred thousand souls. The tide of human life fluctuated between Melbourne and the mines, overspreading the whole vicinity with the devastation of human presence. The influence of the settlers was neither wholesome nor cleanly. They reminded one of a swarm of locusts, destroying every green and pleasant thing. Indeed, they made such an impression on the writer that he was entirely thrown from his philosophic balance, and fell into a spasm of misanthropy. The earth seemed so fair, and man and his labors so vile, that he was led to question whether the "paragon of animals" was not a mere parasitie insect on the cuticle of the great globe, like the horrid monsters brought to light by the solar microscope, The Yankee portion of the population, however, was not so far gone in irrecoverable dirt.

not so far gone in irrecoverable dirt.

Jonathan is certainly neater than his elder brother—not in his person maybe, but in his "fixings." his appointments. He contrives to have everything more confortable about him. He may not build so substantially, he may talk through his ness, and chew tobacco out of doors, but at home he is under a government that obliges him to be rather particular. One may see the difference on going from the States into any English colony, or in any of our large manufacturing towns where there are overstice.

large manufacturing towns where there are operatives enough from Birmingham or Manchester to occupy a quarter by themselves. English tourists have often noticed the neatness of the dwellings in our cities. Perhaps it is owing to differences in chinate and constitution; our Continent has not the insular fog; we are not so universelly accustomed to the use of bituminous coal; we are more excitable and sensitive; less thick-skinned. However it may be, the general fact is indisputable.

I do not think a Yankee population could by any force of circumstances, short of actual cos major, ever sink to the Melbourne zero of discomfort. If they did, they could not long survive it. In all the new towns of the West, and in California, wherever they have migrated, they bring in their wake clean food and beds undefiled. True, I was but a month in Melbourne, and that in the best season: I did not experience one of the dry hot winds they speak of which blow in summer from the great unexplored deserts when the dust gathers like snow inches deep through the chitiks of closed doors and windows; I saw enough to excuse much, however, in the mud. Still, justice must be done, and in point of cleanliness, Melbourne, by her own confession, must be found wanting. She has acquired colonial habits, and unless she speedily reforms, she must suffer for them in the health of her citizens. I am sad when I think of the probable consequences of the present or past state of things continuing through many sality seasons.

Mr. Peck gives sot living in Melbourne which may be of interest to the

living in Melbourne which may be of interest to the future emigrant.

The horses and bullocks, as the Euglish call them, instead of cattle or ozen, one sees about Melbourne, are generally an extremely ill-looking and apparently ill-fod and overworked portion of the animal kingdom. The horses stop, give out, and decline going any further, or as the word is, "balk," or "jib" in Melbourne with a frequency quite noticeable. They generally exhibit in their forms anything but the fruit of good living or careful grooming. The vehicles they have to draw are mostly a species of chaise cart built for a single beast, with a body like a huge wooden knife tray, perched on springs like a baker's cart, and having a froat seat for two, and a back one or two side back ones for two more. These may be better than our old cabe, but the roads and streets are much worse, and wooden kinde fray, perchaed or spines have obliced visually have another than our old cebs, but the roads and streets are much worse, and the poor horses safter. Hay in the city is worth from thirty to forty pounds; the expense for keep is about seven pounds per week. Bullocks can be had for forty pounds per yold. Their vokes have usually bows made of round three-quarter inch iron, which must gail the neck cruelly, they are driven in immense teams, with immense whips twenty feet long, and clamor and needless noise, to Colonial ears delightful—to mine not.

thtful—to mine not. The escort horses are no better than those in general use The excert horses are no better than those in general use. But there are now and then fine animals belonging to private gentlemen, who avidently pride themselves on their turn-outs. I am not horseman enough to know what may be its advantages; but the English mode of riding, rising in the saddle, with short stirrups and great apparent effort to get en, strikes an American as rather jockey-like than becoming. Every one rides who can, and there are always plenty of horsemen in the streets; the state of the roads and streets rendering the indulgence of the national taste a matter of necessity. All riders are provided with heavy whips, loaded at the ends of the short staves, with hammer-like heads of brass or iron—formidable weapons to look at, but unradiable, one would imagine, as a defense against the pistol.

pistol.

Mutton and beef are, of course, the meats most consumed. The joints and cuts look well in the butchers shops on Saturday evenings, displayed in the London fusition, but it was a common remark that they were of coarser feature, and did not possess the full flavor of similar means at home. They did not come very high, a good cut of roast or boiled, could be had at the chop houses for eighteen pence, or three shillings New-York money, and if one patronised a certain zine shauty on the market-place, velept the "Hedgers, ascertained by the author hereof to be the establishment affording the most and best cocked food for the least money, he could have a vapor bath thrown in, the confined unpercois cabin being always crowded at the dinner hour to bursting. I had, however, a peculiar satisfaction in feeding there the landlady was a grand specimen of the portly Englishwoman in the Saddons style, and entertained a noble estimate of the powers and capacities of the human stomach. I am sure she took a motherly pleasure in socing her customers cat. She had a liberal eve and an open hand, she might have sat for Ceres, or the impersonation of Abundance. There was with her always plenty and to spare, and no niggardly glances to poison enjoyment of it. A plate of sonp was a dinner of rump-steak plar retainding me of Scott's vention pastics, it was a fortified mountain where you might march Mutton and beef are, of course, the meats most con-

sat for Ceres, or the impersonation of Abundance. There was with her always plenty and to spare, and no ingardly glunces to poison enjoyment of it. A plate of some was a dinner: of rump-steak pie, retunding me of Scott's venison pastics, it was a fortified mountain where you might march up your forces, effect a breach here and there, and plant your flag on the outworks, but could seldom raise the citatel. Elessings on the woman, I sigh when I think how cruel fate has parted as forever?

There are good fish to be had in the Meibsurne market: at the Royal we had occasionally a sort of perch brodled for breekfast, which was very good. Fork is also served in its usual forms, though it is not so much eaten as beef and mutten, and costs more. The vegetables I saw in the market looked well, particularly the candidowers. There were chomons carrets, nearly a yard long, and stout in proportion. The oneons were obtoing, squeezed, perhaps, into that shape in growing through the adhesive soil. There were also huge jotatoes from New Zealand and Adelaide, but they were seldom free from the rot. The few turkeys and fowl did not promise much. Wild duck, and other game fowl were often hawked in the streets: I remember seeing a boy with a braze of block swars.

But almost everything animal as well as everythile of ea-

Englishmen could cut, were hawked in and cuten raw from backets, at six shiftings or more per dozen! Even the shrimp, said at five shiftings a quart, had a yeang lobster lock. I saw frequently opessums brought in on the shoulders of sportsmen, they resemble raccoons, only that they are smaller and grayish. If the inhabitants can ever persuade themselves to cut what Frenchmen eat, they may precure from the greet swamps and marshes an ample supply of frogs, which are said to grow in those locations, almost as large and loud-voiced as ozen. Our New-York entigrants will be eatching and broiling them—their gourmand fellow-citizens at home have long esteemed frogs very delicate and chicken-like food.

many felicate end chicken-like food.

The effect of the convict population on the social aspects of Melboutne is set forth in a graphic passage.

The effect of the convict population on the social aspects of Melbourne is set forth in a graphic passage, which we will quote:

There is a class of the Melbourne population which can only be met with in an Australian city—a class which, while it impresses its presence most forcibly and unpleasantly upon a stranger, is, by its marked character, a satisfying testimony to the excellence of the English law, and the purity of its administration—a strong proof that justice, in the United Kingdom, if not absolutely uncerning, does generally succeed in finding the right offenders. The convicts, or those who have been such, the "lags," as they are called, are naturerous enough, and it requires but little sagacity to distinguish them. Generally they have marks by which they may be readily recognized, the high check bones, with gray, retreating, unstendy eyes, and forchards villations low. The worst of our prisons cannot produce faces to compare with those that may often be seen in Melbourne; faces which not seen under suspicious circumstances, or marked with the consciousness of guilt, for they often belonged to individuals well dressed and in respectable positions, yet told of whole generations of crime.

We seldom encounter such faces in the United States, hereditary traits are less observable, and local poculiarities and individualities wear off sconer. We seldom start, as I often did in Melbourne, before yearing, and in more than one instance, beautiful feutures, thinking almost alond. My God' what forbears, what a father and unother that creature must have had. And I never saw such absolutely fearful countenances as were worn by many of the old; so course and livid, and with eyes that had pupils no begger than pin-boles, out of which seemed to book deviis incarnate. What an old Sedechman that was who wanted

her speak but once. but her secends were so musical and pure, and her manner so teminine, that I fell in love with her at sight. Yet there was a something in her face, not weakness exactly, nor badness, but moral duliness, and the lock of a heart that had never dared to hope, which made me inexpressibly sad. Poor creature! Our traveler was not tempted to remain in the de-

lectable society of Melbourne and we accordingly find him in the autumn on the coast of Peru and among the notorious Chincha Islands. The space in his volume devoted to those localities contains more novelties even than the rest of the book and cannot fail to attract general attention. Of the important product of the islands, which has now become such a valuable seticle both in commerce and agriculture, Mr. Peck gives a detailed account.

Peck gives a detailed account.

Guano, as I have stated in a preceding page, lies upon all the islands in the form of high, smooth, rounded hills, and covers nearly every part of all of them, following the inequalities of the underlying rock. At a distance it makes them all seem to be islands of rock, beriered by envernous perpendicular cliffs, and covered with reddish yellow sand, but little lighter in color than the volcanic sand, which everywhere on hills and plains fringes the Peruvian coast. Where it has been cut away it is lighter still, being of an undecided mixture of red, white, yellow and gray—a sort of subcerber, or to be very precise, about the color of white and red ashes of anthracite coal, mingled in équal proportions. On the sides of the cuttings where it has been taken away, it may be seen to lie in separately colored layers or strata, generally parallel with the plane of the herizen, of all thicknesses from that of a sheet of pasteboard to two or three inches; the red layers were usually the tickest; but they were of all shades and succeeded each other without any secretainable order—red, white, brown, ind. grayish, faint vellow, earthy, white, brown, red, and so th—so that I could never adopt a theory which I much wished to form, that the differently colored strain were deposits made at different seasons, year after year, for ages, and that each season had a peculiar correspondent hue on account of the periodical visits of different species of birds, or of birds and seals.

and that each season had a peculiar correspondent hue on account of the periodical visits of different species of birds, or of birds and seals.

Indeed, although interested in the inquiry, as no one could help being in so singular a place. I was never able to satisfy myself with any hypothesis to account for the guano being there as it is under all its conditions. That it is preduced by birds and seals there can be no doubt. Every part of it abounds with the remains of them. Eggs, and wing homes of birds, and caoine teeth of sea lious charged to ammenia, are found in every part of it. I cut them out with my kride from the base of the curring on the North Island, where the guano is deepest, a hundred and fity feet below the surface. After going down a few feet, the whole substance of the stratified deposit is the same throughout. In some places there is a difference in depth of color perceptible in contiguous strata for a foot or two in thickness, extending along the whole of the cattings where they are exposed. This would include so many of the thin strata, that it must have taken years, and perhaps hundreds of years in its formation. What causes could have operated to give so marked a change of color, while the producing and stratifying agencies were unchanged, through so long a time? Why should a series of strata, the same in substance and form, be redder or browner than other series above and below it? I could no more account for this than for the irregularity of the strata the mestives.

themselves.

Buried in the guane, also at great depths, are fragments themselves.

Buried in the guane, also at great depths, are fragments of granife, not water worn, but freshly fractured, like fragments thrown off in blasting and chipping. They occur is pieces so large that birds or scals could never have brought them there; there is no granite nearer than San Gallan Island, nearly twenty miles to the southward. How shall we account for their being there!

But what was most puzzling, the strata do not follow the convexity of the hills. They are more level. And I remarked in the only place where the cuttings gave an opportunity for observing, that they continued at nearly the same level on two elevations, and did not follow the depression of an inconsiderable valley. They cropped out on the sides of one swell or gentle roll of the surface and appeared on another, as if the intervening depression had been worn away by the action of water. But how, if the guano has been for the last few centuries in process of formation by birds and scals, should these out-cropping strata come out so near the surface? For I should have observed that the edges of the layers on the sides of the elevations that the edges of the layers on the sides of the elevations come out to within a few feet, and mingle there with loose that the edges of the layer on the sades of the elevations come out to within a few feet, and mingle there with loose unstratified guano, which forms a surface covering everywhere. If the horizontal strata had been submerged and worn away by water into elevations and depressions, as seemed the only reasonable supposition, why should not the constantly forming deposit, in the ages since its emergence take the form of the mounds and valleys on which it rests? We cannot suppose that the islands have changed their form in the last hundred wars; in that time one would think that new strata would have been formed which would have overlaid the other like a rind. But the level strata include all the compact guano, and preserve their places nearly to the higher of the elevations. It is true that the seals are said to have resorted to the highest places they could find, and their skeletons may still be seen on the summit of the South Island, at least four hundred fred above the sea level. This might in part account for the apparent outcropping of the strata, the seals might seen on the sammat of the South Island, at least four hun-dry direct above the sea level. This might in part account for the apparent out-cropping of the strats, the seals might have preterred the elevations and described the depressions, and the strata might thus appear to have been abraded by water after deposition. This was the only supposition; and the strata were so strongly marked, and the undula-tions of the surface so gentle, that it was far from satis-factors.

That such great deposits could have been formed by seals and birds alone is not at all incredible; it is only the dislors under which they are found that are so difficulty account for—the irregularity in the order of the strata. concerned in color in configuous series of strata in the at-most homogeneous mass, the presence of fragments of granite, and the apparent independence of the strata and want of conformity with the inequalities of the surface. Here would seem to be enough inexplicable phenomena, without opening the inquiry how such masses of ammonia could have remained under water, on the supposition of their submergence.

On each of the three Chinchas is a place where the aut-formitte of the street of the content of the conte

On each of the three Chinchas is a place where the uniformity of the chiffs is interrupted, and the hill of granno slopes down to a nerrow bear. It was said by English captains and others who had visited the islands fifteen or twenty years ago that thousands—millions one of them expressed it—of scale might then be seen going up those slopes at certain times of the year to the tops of the bills. On the South Island I saw many skeletons of them lying on the surface or half buried in it, and fancied I could trace where the bodies had turned, and what was left of them was still turning to guane. The animals must have reached there of their own accord, though why they should choose to ascend so high out of their usual element on a hot dasty hill, and how they were able to drug themselves over it nearly a mile and four or five hundred feet upward are paints on which they have not left us any information. But the fact is unquestionable, and is another singularity in the is into on which they have not left us any information. But the fact is unquestionable, and is another singularity in the natural history of these mysterious creatures. If they invaded the high land in such numbers as is related, the largest portion of the grane may be readily accounted for. Multitudes were left there dead: the old scalect frequently say that it is for this purpose alone, to die, that the creatures excended. The vestiges of such hosts must have been enormous. The sea from its a consumer and produce, on a most magnificant scale, as well as a practical free-trader—there is no taroff on his imports and exports. Caprophagous birds must have accompanied by progress in myrade, the turkey-buzzards must have been ever be

The result of all my investigations of this deficate subject is that the reddish streaks in the guane are from small hirds and the remains of sea lions, which the valueres could not carry away; the other lighter colored sixels, concernly thinner, are from pelicans and the larger sea birds. There is nothing in the way of the supposition that the whole deposit may have been formed long since the building of the Pyramide of the Nile, except the granite fragments and the water-worn valleys; and I am inclined fragments and the water worn valleys; and I am inclined fragments and the water worn valleys; and I am inclined fragments of the formation notwithstanding these. Very little decay or loss takes place after the vultures have done, their work, and the chemical action changing the tough their work and bones to ammonia has begun. The climate is so dry that the volatile alkali is not set free, but remains there forever. Perhaps the granite fragments were thrown there in some of the eruptions that may have occurred on this coast within the last thousand years; but then there for tothing, and came very near being tarned into a water-fail myself.

Perhaps too, the islands have been submerged, or great waters have flowed over them in earthquakes such as destroyed old Callace; and perhaps not. Fortunately travelers are not obliged to account for all the unexplained phenomena they meet with. I shall therefore leave the subject with the usual Spanish "Quera sole" I may have been already lavestigated if not, it should be brought to the notice of scientific men as a curious inquiry.

The system of guane sisvery, by which the labor of Change collection of Fareyers and the substance of the properties of the courtree of Fareyers of the courtree of Fareyers of the courtree of Fareyers of the properties of the courtree of Fareyers of the properties of the courtree of Fareyers of the properties of the properties of the properties of the courtree of Fareyers of the properties of the properties of the properties of the properties of

The system of guano slavery, by which the labor of Chinese coolies is employed to supply the trading vessels with guano is commented on by Mr. Peck with

Chinese coolies is employed to supply the trading vessels with gamo is commented on by Mr. Peck with becoming severity.

The comming severity.

The comming severity.

The summers conflict "Meanmerse," on the object of the cinifs, an iplaces where launches or vassile can be morred below, by coolies who are brought to Peru by English ships from the free ports of China. There are about three hundred coelies at work on the Middle Island and seven or cipit hundred on the North. It is said that a seven or cipit hundred on the North. It is said that was to blert for five years at real, or Yook shilling, peed to be been for five years at a real, or Yook shilling, peed to have it is way onward to the south by taking to blert for five years at a real, or Yook shilling, peed to hake its way onward to the south by taking to haber in gold mmes. The real truth I suppose to be that they are contracted for by the Peravian Government, and transferred to it at a good point by the English with being them. Whatever their contracts may be if they are ond-water, and transferred to it at a good point by the English with being them. Whatever their contracts may be in the properties of the diggers of gamon their enging, they have no fiberry and injurious final many and the colline properties and the said of the said o

In the close of the volume, Mr. Peck descants with glowing eloquence on the numerous fascinations of the City of Lima, which he seems to have looked into no less curiously than into the parti-colored social life of Australia. He is seldom deterred from pursuing his researches by any fastidious scruples and he describes

THE MYRTLE WREATH. By MINNIE MYRTLE, 12mg, pp.

We are quite out of patience with the alliterative conceits of unfledged aspirants for literary honors, and are tempted to wage a war of extermination upon the whole tribe who rejoice in this stale device of absurd fancy pseudonymes. The success of a few brilliant writers who have become well known to fame by their newspaper signatures, has encouraged the affectation to an altogether intelerable extent. is high time that a stop were put to the fully, and if Minnie Myrtle had not such a profusion of redeeming excellencies, we should at once proceed to break the fair unknown upon the wheel, as an awful warning to future offenders. But she has really so many commendable qualities as a writer for the people, that we are disposed to pardon her for yielding to an evil example, premising that her next work shall bear the name of the author on the title-page. Minnie Myrtle is not merely a tender sentimentalist,

inhaling the breath of flowers, bathing her forehead in dew-drops, and never permitting "the winds of Heaven to visit her too roughly." She is clearly a good, honest Yankee girl-familiar with the cordial aspects of country life-imbued with the home-bred common sense which is produced in an active mind by opening eye and car to passing things-with a fund l and generous feeling, and a certain freshness of thought, which betokens a retired life and an unhackneyed nature. Her favorite themes are derived from the exercise of the domestic affections, in which, strange to say, she finds the true "sphere of woman." Many of her descriptions of character show a power of alert observation, and that quick detection of metives, which comes so naturally from a female pen. Occasionally she indulges in a gentle vein of satire, which is usually effective, though never virulent. We prefer her narrative sketches to the more ambitious reflections and generalizations which she sometimes deals in, undoubtedly from a prevalent sense of duty, as they are evidently not her forte by nature. In hitting off the pretensions of "genteel society," the absurdities of pompous fashion, whether religious or secular, and the every day manners of Yankees at home, she is sure of her ground and seldom fails of her mark. In point of expression, this volume has the charm which always arises from simplicity, freedom, and a straightforward mode of "calling a cat, a cat." We have no doubt Minnie Myrtle can and will write better than anything here given, but as a first trial of the perils of authorship, her "Wreath" is bound to be cherished in a genial atmosphere, and preserved as an offering of early flowers in promise of richer fruit bye and by.

Our readers upon the banks of the Connecticut may recognize Minnie's picture of "Our Valley in Summer." and we leave them to say if it is not true to the life

Now, dear reader, are you ready? If you are we will Now, dear reader, are you ready! If you are we will take a ride. A string of pearls is on every blade of grass, and diamonds are on every calys, and leaf had flower. Every tree is a concert-room, from which is pouring forth such melody as the walls of no Metropolitan ever echoed. Oh, I hope you love the forests, fields and flowers, else I shall not be disposed to ask you to ride with me, especially in this cory way. In the old chaise, with Dolly the peny. See how very nice and sleek she looks—and she likes a ride almost as well as I.

We will go up by the river bank—how the waters gleam and sparkle in the morning sun, and here is the eddy curl-ing so gracefully underneath the rocks. How many hours I have spent in childhood on that sunny bank, and climb-ing over those rocks. Here is where the head in the cres-cent meadow begins, and those great bowlders may be wenter ages by the current and they will not perceptibly diminish.

with for ages by the corrent and they will not proceed diminish.

On our right is the river, and on our left "a little strip of meadow land," in which the farmer sows his soed, which yields abundantly of "all the fruits of the earth. Across the river, too, is a meadow, and those two white cottages you see, looking like twins, are occupied by two twin brothers, who have lived there all their lives and grown rich with the products of that little bit of land. There is a village near by, but I do not see as it has grown any since I can remember, and all along among the hills, as far as the eye can see, a steeple may be seen nestling emong the trees.

I wouldnest it it association that makes the spire so pic-

mong the trees.

I wonder if it is association that makes the spire so pic-itesque and so welcome a sight to the traveler in New-

England.

Here comes a little brook, leaping and skipping and dimping along. Oh, how I love its merry music. How many castles, of new shingles, have I built upon its borders, and how many hours with a troop of merry cousins have I "played go a-visiting" from castle to castle, where we have eaten and drunk from broken bits of china imaginary tea and postry, with a better reisch than any substantial visuals and postry, with a better reisch than any substantial visuals. The lesistation in the speech, and the readiness of the allusion, were alike characteristic of the individual, whom her afforded since. How many apple pies and duraging more made on that rock, with the specking and that pathlies for place. How many fishes I have cate in the these little neeklets with a creeked pin.

Charles Lamb! He was shy like myself with armagers,

water-fail myself.

But new look alroad, and while you are gasing I will tell you that I am not alone in thinking this one of the most beautiful landscape views this world affords.

A friend of mine was dimine at the American Hotel is Paris, and a gentleman shous she did not know, and who did not know her, was felating his journeyanes and telling of the beautiful spots he had seen in the old world and in the new, whose suddenly her attention was are sted by a partire she could not fail to recognize, for she had gazed upon it many a time from this very hill-top. He had beau in every State in our Union, and in most of the countries of Earope, and he had found but one scene to rival this in lovellness, and that was in the next of France.

Was not this a compliment to "Our Valley, which we may be proud to repeat!

This is "lugall's Hill, and for miles you can see the river winding through the luxuriant meadows—the monatians stretching far away in the distance till they are lost in the blue other, and I can point to you the spot where they come down to the very water's edge, on both sides of the stream, and terminate the veiley on the south, by taking held of hands, and giving the river only a very narrow passage to make its way onward to the sea. Only the artist a panel can give you any idea of the beauty and variety which you can behold at one giance of mountain and valley, and river and streamlet, and dagle and dell.

But look, there is something you might see only once in coming a hundred times. A deer has been startled from his leary covert. Our voices have reached him—how he is tembles—away he bounds, over the fence, up the mountain and is lost in the forest.

mothers lived, for the manufacture, who were need, analy to the primitive simplicity of the olden time.

Their father was a brave soldier in the wars, and they had two brothers, one who went to seek his fortuce in other lands, and the other who lived with them unmarried fill hadied, and left them alone to "keep house" and take care of the farm; and should you see how well they manage it you went be convinced what woman can do when thrown upon her own resources.

Here you shall walk upon the "sanded floor," upon which you may be careful not to "drop your broad and butter."

Here you shall walk upon the "sanded floor, upon which you may be careful not to "drop your bread and butter, and look upon unpainted walls accurred to snowly whiteness. You shall see beds of down and patchwork quitts, and blankets of wool which they "picked" and carded, and spun and wove, and sheets made of flax which they raised and bleached, and "made into cloth; rivaling even "Holland" itself.

The table-cloth will dazzle your eyes, as will also those

The table-cloth will dazzle your eyes, as will also those rows of pewter on the "dressers," and you will wonder by what process those knives and spoons are burnished; and I shall be obliged to tell you that they use a nagredient which is simost bamished from modern kitchens, though so plenty in the days of our grandames, which is, "elbow groase." You shall have "boiled dish for dinner, and tea, real "Suchang, in those tiny cups, and "pull biscuit" and butter which looks as if it were made of buttar-cups, and such a dumpling as you never tasted. And you shall be regaled with conversation that is as rare as your repast, so spiced with conversation that is as rare as your repast, so spiced with conversation that is as rare as your repast, so spiced with conversation that is as rare as your repast, so spiced with conversation that is as rare as your repast, so spiced with common sense and mother wit, and anecdotes of the early settlers—for they are old ladies now—and you shall be really settlers—for they are old ladies now—and you shall summis if you do not I will never foregive you, I their dresses of genatice home-pun, cut after a pattern which has not varied for fifty years, and which has permitted them to us enjoy health all the days of their lives.

Here they have lived always, entirely secluded from the world, selicion ever visiting their neighbors, and never indulging in gossip, and scenningly contented and happy. The rudest lips never mention their names but with respect, and the most indifferent heart yields a cordial tribute to their homely virtues. With what a hearty welcome you are invited to come again, and is not such hospitality the richest treat you have had for many a day?

We must go home now, and Dolly is in fine order too, for she has been cropping clover. See how she pricks up her ears, now she is homeward bound; I shell always quarrel with those who dony to her thought and intelligence. I had rather take a ride with her any time than with some stupid bipeds I could mention, and some day we wil

The prose pieces in the volume are interspersed with poetical productions, including several translations from Beranger, which are gracefully versified. Some of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in the Aketches have already appeared in "The National Control of the Aketches have already appeared in the Aketches have all already appeared in the Aketches have already appeared in the Ak Era," "The Independent," and "The Daily Times," to the editor of which last journal, Mr. Raymond, the volume is dedicated as "the cordial and generous friend" of the author.

POEMS BY THOMAS HOOD. 2 vols. 12mo. Boston: Little, Strown & Co. New-York Evans & Dickerson.

Hood is the first of recent poets whose works have appeared in the beautiful Boston edition of collective English poetry. He fills a worthy place by the side of the great masters in whose company he is now introduced. His wit, sense, and fine humanity have gained not only the admiration, but the loving gratitude of thousands of readers. Few poems in our language have touched a deeper chord of feeling or linger with a more tender enchantment in the memory, than those strains of truest pathos in which he pours out the broad sympathics of his noble heart. We are glad to see this complete American edition of his poeti-cal writings, and are sure that no volume of the series will receive a more universal welcome from our countrymen. In point of form and mechanical execution it is all that can be desired by the most festidious taste. An interesting sketch of the author is prefixed to the first volume, including the autobiographical confessions in his " Literary Rem-The following account of his first interview inforences." with one of the greatest modern "English hamorists. is admirably told, and may be new to many of our readers:

is admirably told, and may be new to many of our readers:

I was sitting one morning beside our editor, basily correcting proofs, when a visitor was amounced, whose name, grumbled by a low ventriloquial voice, like Tom Pipes calling from the hold through the batchway, did not resound distinctly on my tympanum. However, the door opened, and in came a strunger, a figure remarkable at a glance, with a fine head, on a small, spare body, supported by two almost immaterial legs. He was clothed in sables, of a bygone fachion, but there was something wanting or something present about him, that certified he was neither a divine, nor a physician, nor a schoolmaster; from a cerof a bygone fashion, but there was something wanting or something present about him, that certified he was neither a divine, nor a physician, nor a schoolmaster; from a certain neatness and sobriety in his dress, coupled with his seiste bearing, he might have been taken, but that such a costume would be anomalous, for a Quaker in black. He looked stul more like (what he really was) a literary Modern Astique, a New-Old Author, a living Anachronism, contemporary at once with Burton the Elder, and Colmas the Younger. Meanwhile he advanced with rather a peculator gait, his walk was plantigrade, and with a cheerful. How dive, and one of the blandest, sweetest smiles that ever brightened a manly countenance, held out two fingers to the Entor. The two gentlemen in black soon fell into discourse, and while they conferred, the Lavater principle within me set to work upon the interesting specimen thus presented to its speculations. It was a striking intellectual face full of wiry lines, physiognomical quips and cranks, that gave it great character. There was much cames these subout the brows, and a deal of speculation in the eves, which were brown and bright, and "quick in turning; the nose, a decided one, though of so established order; and there was a handsome smartness about the mouth. Altogether it was no common face—none of the exilies-patters once, which nature turns out by thousands at her polteries; but more like a chance specimen of the Chinese ware, one to the set-unique, unaint. No one who had once seen it, could pretend not to know it again. It was no face to lend its constitution of the site of any confusion of persons in a Comedy of Errors. You might have sworn to it piecemeal, a separate affidavit for every feature. In short, his face was as original as his figure; his figure as his character; his character has few writings; his writings the most original of the age. After the literary business had been settled, the Editor invited his contributor to dinner, adding, "we shall have a bare".

The levitation i

"And-and-and-and many Friends"